

Message Text

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22-12

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY:EB/AN:AJRIMAS:DAP

APPROVED BY:EB/AN:JBMAGNOR

CAB - FMURPHY (SUBS)

AF/W - JSEEGARS

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R 100054Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, LI

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GOL REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS

REF: MONROVIA 7808

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1. EMBASSY MAY INFORM GOL BY NOTE OR BY OTHER SUITABLE MEANS THAT USG IS UNABLE TO MEET DURING TIMEFRAME SUGGESTED (BEFORE FEBRUARY 15) IN VIEW OF PRIOR NEGOTIATING COMMITMENTS ELSEWHERE. PLEASE ASSURE GOL THAT WE CONTINUE TO FAVOR NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT ISSUES AND THAT WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO PROPOSE DATE FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SINCE GOL HAS INITIATED THE REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO HOLD TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD FURTHER INFORM GOL THAT WE ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF NEGOTIATING AN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH LIBERIA DURING PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS. THE TALK SHOULD RATHER SERVE TO EXAMINE SPECIFIC BILATERAL CIVAIR ISSUES WHICH MAY BE OF CONCERN TO EITHER PARTY. WE COULD EVALUATE WHETHER AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE MEANS BY WHICH TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING ISSUES AND TO REGULATE AIR TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN THE

U.S. AND LIBERIA IN LIGHT OF OUTCOME OF PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS.

3. FYI: WE WOULD NOT CONSIDER GRANTING LIBERIA ANY POINTS TO U.S. AT THIS TIME, SINCE IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO JUSTIFY SUCH A ROUTE BASED ON U.S.-LIBERIA TRAFFIC. IN ORDER MAKE LIBERIAN AIRLINE SERVICE VIABLE, LIBERIA WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN DISPROPORTIONATE RIGHTS CARRY TRAFFIC BETWEEN U.S. AND THIRD COUNTRIES, WHICH CONTRARY U.S. CIVAIR POLICY. PAN AM, ON OTHER HAND, CAN JUSTIFY SERVICE BY VIRTUE LARGE AMOUNT THROUGH TRAFFIC CARRIED. OUR PRINCIPLE CIVAIR GOAL IN LIBERIA REMAINS THE STABILIZATION OF PAN AM SERVICES IN THAT COUNTRY. END FYI.

4. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'E REPORTS ON STATUS OF AIR WEST CONTRACT AND DISCUSSION OF BRITISH CALEDONIAN ROLE. WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE RECEIVING SUCH INFORMATION IN FUTURE. DURING ANY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH GOL IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO POINT OUT THAT EVEN IF LIBERIA WERE TO GAIN AIR TRAFFIC RIGHTS TO U.S. (WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS NOT PROBABLE IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE), UNDER U.S. LAWS, ANY LIBERIAN CARRIER DESIGNATED TO SERVE THE U.S.

WOULD HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE AIRLINE IS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THE NATIONALS OF LIBERIA BEFORE A U.S. OPERATING PERMIT FOR THE CARRIER COULD BE GRANTED. KISSINGER

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